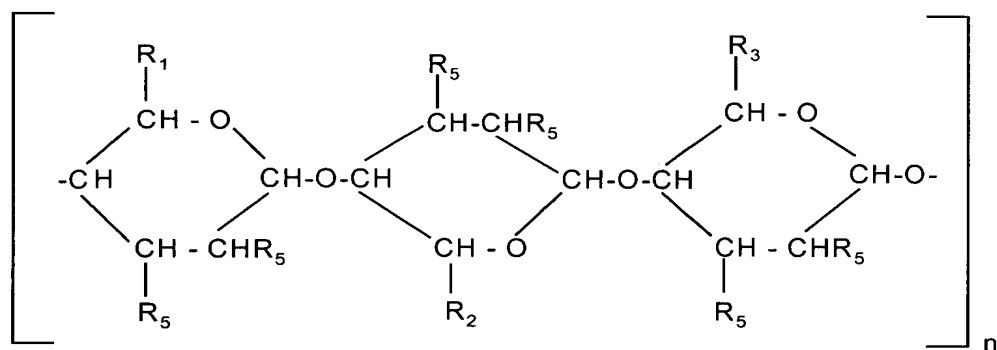


Abstract of the Disclosure

A polymeric composition based on PVA is claimed and is substantively composed of

- a) from 50 to 99.9% by weight of polyvinyl alcohol with an average MW of from 5 000 to 25 000 and with a degree of hydrolysis of from 79 to 99.9 mol%, where the polyvinyl alcohol may contain carboxy groups or polyglycol units in the molecule, and
- b) from 0.1 to 50% by weight, preferably from 0.1 to 15% by weight, and particularly preferably from 0.1 to 10% by weight, of one or more polysaccharides of the formula



where

R_1 , R_2 , R_3 are H, CH_2OH , COOMe , COOR_4 , CONHR_6 , or $\text{CH}_2\text{OSO}_3\text{Me}$, and Me is Na, K, NH_4 , Mg, or Ca,

n is a number from 20 to 20 000, preferably from 100 to 10 000, in particular from 1 000 to 9 000,

R_4 is C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, preferably methyl,

R_5 is OH, NHCOCH_3 , H or OCOCH_3 and

R_6 is H, COCH_3 , or C_1 - C_4 , preferably methyl.

This polymeric composition is suitable for producing capsules.